Amdt. Dated September 16, 2009

Reply to Office Action of June 18, 2009

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A separation device for the separation of constituents of different density of well fluids from a well, the separation device including a container having an inner wall, a feed line transporting the fluid into the container, the fluid at least partially being separated in the container into its constituents using centrifugal force in the radial direction and—/—or using gravitational force in the vertical direction, the separation device further including

a classifier device arranged in a lower section of the container having at least one discharge line extending in the radial direction outwards for the discharge of the fluid adjacent the wall of into the container and causing the application of a centrifugal force on the fluid and a plurality of delivery lines joined to the container at different levels in the vertical direction for the separated fluid constituents.

- 2. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 1, wherein the discharge line is in a generally spiral shape at least adjacent to its discharge opening.
- 3. (currently amended) The separation device according to claim 1, wherein the discharge line extends aroundfrom a vertical pipe of the classifier device arranged centrally in the container.
- 4. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 3 wherein a fluid line terminates within the vertical pipe and the fluid enters the discharge line from within the vertical pipe.
- 5. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 3 wherein the vertical pipe is subdivided in the longitudinal direction into a plurality of pipe sections separated from one another, the fluid feed line terminating in a first lower pipe section and each of the further pipe sections above the first pipe section having at least one of the delivery lines communicating with the

Amdt. Dated September 16, 2009

Reply to Office Action of June 18, 2009

each of the further pipe sections.

6. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 3 further including openings

formed in a pipe casing of the vertical pipe at least in the region of the further pipe sections.

7. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 5 wherein a length of the

pipe sections is variable.

8. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 5 wherein the pipe sections

are separated by intervening bottoms.

9. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 3 including two discharge

lines extending from the vertical pipe and being generally coil shaped radially outwards and

extending vertically upwards.

10. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 1 wherein the discharge line

has a number of openings on its outer side, generally in the radial direction.

11. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 3 wherein the classifier

device has at least one blade segment protruding radially outwards from the vertical pipe.

12. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 11 wherein the blade

segment has openings for the accommodation and / or mounting of the discharge line.

13. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 12 wherein the openings are

arranged along a radial outer end section of the blade segment.

14. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 13 wherein the openings are

formed as a partially open edge recess of the blade segment.

15. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 3 wherein the container has

Page 4 of 11

306587.1/1600.14600

Amdt. Dated September 16, 2009

Reply to Office Action of June 18, 2009

a bottom plate enclosing the vertical pipe with outlet openings for at least the fluid constituent with

the greatest density.

16. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 3 wherein the delivery lines

within the vertical pipe have generally vertically extending line sections which are connected to at

least one rotary slide valve.

17. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 16 wherein the line sections

following the rotary slide valve and using a multibore connector can be connected to transport lines

for the further transport of the constituents of the well fluids.

18. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 17 wherein the fluid feed

line is connected via the rotary slide valve and multibore connector to a well fluids line which feeds

the well fluids from the well.

19. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 17 wherein a flow control

valve is arranged in the transport line.

20. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 19 wherein a throttle device

and / or a metering valve follows the flow control valve.

21. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 5 wherein at least one level

sensor is assigned to each pipe section.

22. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 3 wherein at least one

sensor device is disposed in an upper end of the container and / or the vertical pipe.

23. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 1 further including at least

one feedback line disposed between the separation device and the well.

24. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 1 wherein the separation

Page 5 of 11

306587.1/1600.14600

Amdt. Dated September 16, 2009

Reply to Office Action of June 18, 2009

device is a replaceable as part of a tree on the sea bed.

25. (currently amended) The separation device according to claim 1 wherein the separation device has a frame structure for mounting at least the container, lines, pumps, valves, throttles or

similar equipment subsea.

26. (currently amended) The separation device according to claim 1 wherein the separation

device is connected to an electrical supply and control unit positioned <u>subsea</u> adjacent the container.

27. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 1 further including at least

one changeover valve arranged in the well fluids feed line.

28. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 1 further including a bypass

pipeline that branches from the well fluids feed line.

29. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 1 wherein the container is

essentially spherical or silo-shaped.

30. (previously presented) The separation device according to claim 1 wherein the container is

of modular construction.

31. (currently amended) A separator for separating the constituents of well fluids from a well,

the separator comprising:

a container housing a plurality of spiral tubes having at least one inlet and selected outlets;

said at least one inlet receiving the well fluids and using centrifugal force in the radial

direction to separate the constituents which exit the selected outlets into the container;

the constituents separating in the container using gravitational force at different vertical

levels in the container in accordance with their different densities;

a plurality of discharge compartments arranged vertically within the container in accordance

with the densities of the constituents; and

each discharge compartment communicating with a discharge pipe for removing a constituent

Page 6 of 11

Amdt. Dated September 16, 2009

Reply to Office Action of June 18, 2009

from the container.

32. (previously presented) The separator of claim 31 wherein the container is integrated with a

subsea tree.

33. (previously presented) The separator of claim 31 wherein the constituents include sand,

water, and gas and further including a reinjection tree communicating with the discharge pipes

whereby such constituents are reinjected into a reinjection well.

34, (previously presented) The separator of claim 32 further including rotary slide valves for

controlling flow through the discharge lines.

35. (previously presented) The separator of claim 34 wherein the rotary slide valves are actuated

electrically subsea.